

ABSTRACT:

5 The invention relates to a method of sending and validating documents using authentication codes and portable verifier elements which can process and store information and which offer a high level of protection against unauthorised readers and writers. The inventive method is characterised in that the aforementioned authentication code is generated specifically for a particular portable verifier and is indicated directly or indirectly by the person requesting the document. In this way, no data record of any type is required in the portable verifier element up to the point at 10 which the document is validated. It is essential, however, that the portable verifier be actively involved in the validation, said portable verifier containing a stored list of validated documents such that it is possible to determine, at least, whether or not is the first validation.